

**60.60. TREES AND VEGETATION. [ORD 4224; August 2002]**

**60.60.05. Purpose**

Healthy trees and urban forests provide a variety of natural resource and community benefits for the City of Beaverton. In conjunction with processes set forth in Section 40.90 of this Code, this section is intended to help regulate changes regarding the City's urban forest by establishing regulations and standards for the protection, pruning, removal, replacement, and mitigation for removal of significant tree and grove, historic tree, tree within a Significant Natural Resource Area (SNRA), landscape tree, street tree, and community tree.

**60.60.10. Types of Trees and Vegetation Regulated**

Actions regarding trees and vegetation addressed by this section shall be performed in accordance with the regulations established herein and in Section 40.90 of this Code. The City finds that the following types of trees and vegetation are worthy of special regulation:

- 1. Significant Tree and Groves.**
- 2. Historic Tree.**
- 3. Tree within a Significant Natural Resource Area.**
- 4. Landscape Tree.**
- 5. Street Tree.**
- 6. Community Tree.**

**60.60.15 Pruning, Removal, and Preservation Standards**

**1. Pruning Standards**

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or prune to remove a tree's canopy or disturb the root zone of any significant tree and grove, historic tree, tree within a SNRA, landscape tree, and street tree, except in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

60.60.15.1.

- B. All pruning of a significant tree and grove, historic tree, tree within a SNRA, landscape tree, and street tree shall be done in accordance with the standards set forth in this section and the City's adopted Tree Planting and Maintenance Policy, also known as Resolution 3391.

**2. Removal and Preservation Standards**

- A. All removal and planting, including replacement or mitigation planting, of protected trees shall be done in accordance with the standards set forth in this section and the City's adopted Tree Planting and Maintenance Policy.
- B. Removal of a significant tree and grove, landscape tree, and street tree shall require mitigation, which may include tree replacement or other mitigation measures, as set forth in this section.
- C. For Significant Natural Resource Areas (SNRA) and significant groves, the following additional standards shall apply:
  - 1. A minimum of 5% of the trees within a SNRA or significant grove area shall be preserved. The area shall be measured by the area of the tree canopy at maturity. SNRA and significant grove preservation shall include preservation of understory vegetation, as well as trees.
  - 2. Significant groves shall be preserved in rounded clusters rather than in linear strips.
  - 3. Significant groves shall provide connectivity with adjoining forested areas.
  - 4. Native species shall be retained to the extent possible. Native species include, but are not limited to: Grand Fir, Douglas-fir, Western Hemlock, Pacific Yew, Western Red Cedar, Bigleaf Maple, Oregon White Oak, Oregon Ash, Red Alder, Western Flowering Dogwood, Ponderosa Pine, and Black Cottonwood.

Non-native tree species may also be retained for aesthetic, unique condition, size, and wildlife habitat purposes.

**60.60.15.2.**

- D. To assist in the preservation of a tree or grove, the following shall not occur within the protected root zone of each tree at any time without prior approval from the City:
1. Construction or placement of new buildings.
  2. Grade change or cut and fill.
  3. Construction or placement of new impervious surfaces.
  4. Trenching for utilities, irrigation, or drainage.
  5. Staging or storage of any kind.

**60.60.20. Tree Protection Standards During Development**

1. Trees classified as Significant Tree and Grove and Landscape Tree under this Code shall be protected during development in compliance with the following:
  - A. A construction fence must be placed around a tree or grove at least at the edge of the root zone. The fence shall be placed before construction starts and remain in place until construction is complete. The fence shall meet the following:
    1. The fence shall be a four foot (4') tall orange plastic or snow fence, secured to six foot (6') tall metal posts, driven two feet (2') into the ground. Heavy gauge 12 wire shall be attached to the top and midpoint of each post.
    2. Other City approved protection devices that provide equal or greater protection may be permitted.
  - B. Within the protected root zone of each tree, the following development shall not be permitted:
    1. New buildings.
    2. Grade change or cut and fill during or after construction.
    3. New impervious surfaces.

**60.60.20.1.B.**

4. Trenching for utilities, irrigation, or drainage.
5. Staging or storage of materials and equipment during construction.
6. Vehicle maneuvering during construction.

**60.60.25. Mitigation Standards**

1. The following standards shall apply to mitigation for the removal of a significant tree or grove.
  - A. Mitigation for the removal of a significant tree or grove shall be the required replacement of each tree on a one-to-one basis according to total linear DBH measurement. Replacement of trees shall be as follows:
    1. Calculate the sum of the cumulative DBH measurement of the tree to be removed.
    2. The total linear DBH measurement of the tree to be removed shall be replaced with a tree that is at least two caliper inches (2”) in diameter unless otherwise approved by the City. The total caliper inches of the replacement tree shall be at least equal to the sum total of the linear DBH measurement of the removed tree.
    3. If the total caliper inch replacement does not equal the DBH inch removal, the remaining caliper inch replacement will be provided in-lieu. The in-lieu fee shall be specified in the Community Development Department fee schedule and be deposited in the City’s Tree Mitigation Fund.
  - B. Mitigation may be satisfied by one, or a combination of more than one, of the following options:
    1. Planting of trees on the site where tree or grove removal is proposed;
    2. Planting of trees off the site at a location or locations to be determined by the City; or

**60.60.25.1.B.**

3. A fee paid in lieu of tree planting and deposited in the City's Tree Mitigation Fund for future natural resource mitigation efforts. The assessment of tree mitigation shall be determined by the caliper size of the tree removed.
  - C. Any tree required for mitigation shall be a similar species or a tree approved by the City considering site characteristics with a preference given to native species, as listed in Section 60.60.15 of this Code.
  - D. If a mitigation tree of the species of the tree removed or damaged is not reasonably available, the City may allow replacement with a different species with equivalent natural resource value.
  - E. All mitigation tree planting shall take place in conformance with accepted arboricultural practices and the City's Tree Planting and Maintenance Policy.
  - F. All trees planted for mitigation must have a minimum caliper of two inches (2") except where other standards are required through development review.
  - G. All trees planted for tree removal mitigation shall be maintained in accordance with the approved mitigation plan. Monitoring of mitigation planting shall be the ongoing responsibility of the property owner. Trees that die shall be replaced.
2. The following standards apply to the replacement of a landscape tree or street tree:
    - A. A replacement tree shall be a substantially similar species or a tree approved by the City considering site characteristics.
    - B. If a replacement tree of the species of the tree removed or damaged is not reasonably available, the City may allow replacement with a different species with equivalent natural resource value.

60.60.25.2.

- C. Replacement of a landscape tree or street tree shall be based on total linear DBH calculations at a one-to-one ratio depending upon the capacity of the site to accommodate replacement tree or unless otherwise specified through development review. Replacement of tree on a one-to-one basis shall be as follows:
1. Calculate the sum of the total linear DBH measurement of the tree to be removed.
  2. The total linear DBH measurement of the tree to be removed shall be replaced with tree at least 1.5 caliper inches in diameter. The total caliper inches of the replacement tree shall be at least equal to the sum total of the linear DBH measurement of the removed tree.

